

Tuesday morning

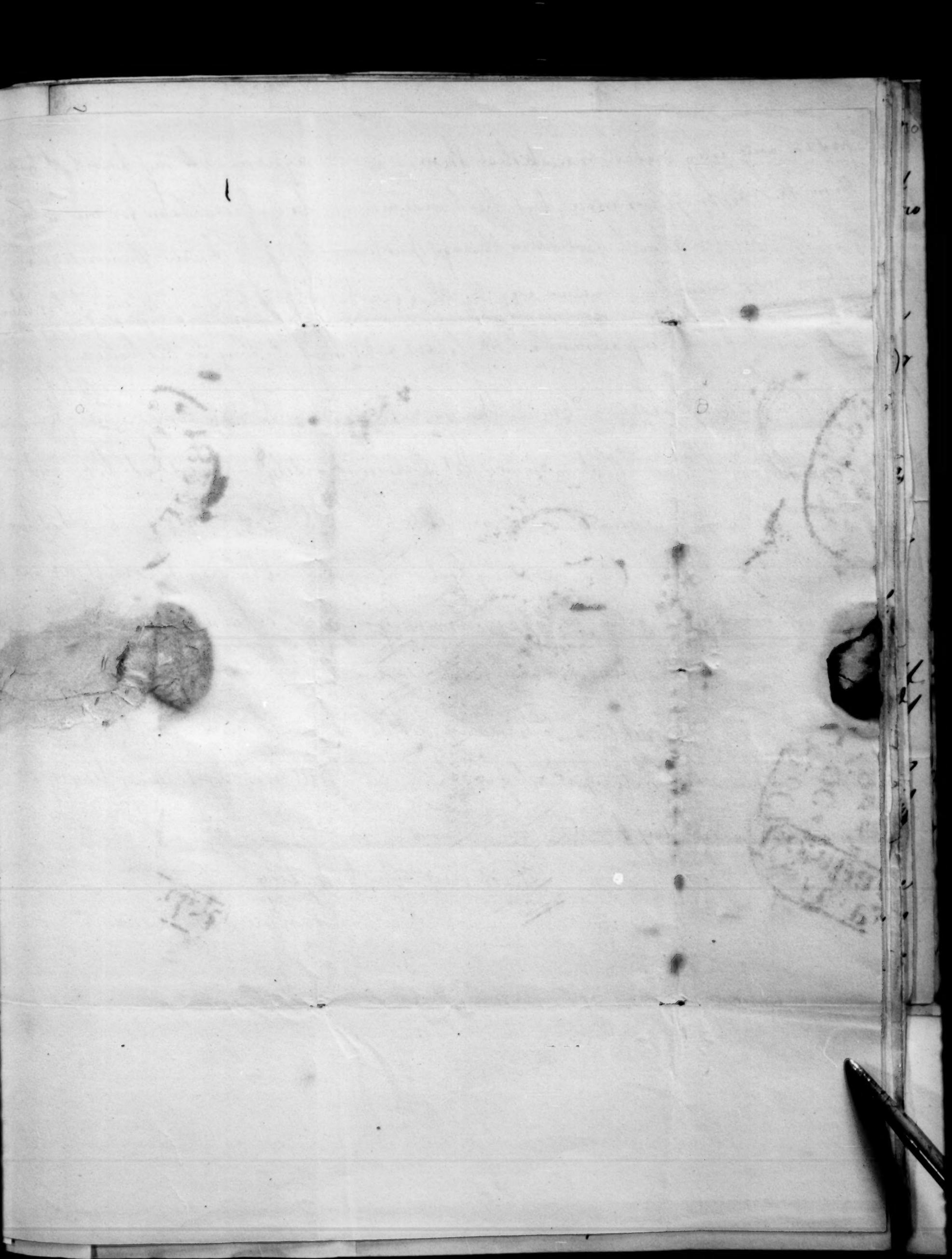
Oct. 17 1822.

My dear Fanny

I should have written to you some time ago but I have had
 a bad start from a & gentle bite given me by my dog even now I am not sure
 you will be able to read what I have written for my hand is so thick up that I can
 scarcely make use of the pen, however you must try — I am quite in despair about
 my pigeons, I believe they are the most refractory pair in the kingdom — They never
 lay more than one egg and never make any thing of that — After the one I told
 you they had quarrelled with, they had another which they broke immediately —
 again about a week back they laid one which until last night they sat on with
 great care, but this morning it was found pushed out of the nest like the
 first and cracked so awkwardly had they performed the operation. I mention its
 being cracked because that might be the reason they would not hatch it — It
 is supposed they must have had a matrimonial quarrel in the middle of the
 night for a great scream was heard at that time by my mother from one of them
 after which all was quiet — Now in applying to you to know whether you
 can account for it I consider I am taking counsels opinion on the subject so pray
 give it with all due gravity — I must just add that I am pretty certain no one

had in any way touched or molested them - in consequence of my hand I have ^{not} _[myself] them this fortnight or more, but the houseman who has done them for me, is by no means a person to touch forbidden things particularly as he knew - The consequences and we only know they had an egg by this constantly setting - so much for them I will try them in confinement a little longer, after that if they do no better they shall be left to themselves - Mrs Dilke is returned and next time ^{I call to} see you I shall bring ~~her~~ if I know of it in time. Mr Brown is safely arrived at Pisa and in spite of his vow has made an acquaintance with Lord Byron. He likes him very much - I have been reading Gil Blas again and I like it as well as ever, but I do not wonder at your disappointment for it is so totally different from Le Livre and wants the romantic parts so much besides shewing so much of the worst part of the world that to many people it must be a very disagreeable book. I remember hating it at first - I will not write any longer for fear of straining my hand

yours very affectionately
Frances Browne



29 Oct 22

Ship Sheets

Richard H. Day

W. Hammond

2681



